Mr. A. V. Mootheda n:—That we know. Has he got any name in English Literature? He may be a literary luminary in Malayalam.

Mr. President:—That may be addressed to the Hon'ble Member.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:—When I addressed the question to the Government about the position of Mr. Ullur S. Parameswara Ayyar in the literary world I was having in my mind only his position in Malayalam Literature and also for the information of the Hon'ble Member I may say there are various sub-committees to consider various subjects, English, Arithmetic, History, Geography, etc.

Mr. A. V. Mootheda n:—In the Board of Studies there are 3 men, Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon, Ayyappan and one other. Are they not sufficient for the Malayalam Literature? Why should a Travancorean be introduced?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—We might transcend the political divisions at least in the field of literature. It is a question of getting the best people to give most efficient service on the Committee.

Mr. A. V. Mootheda n:—He has no position except in Malayalam literature and for Malayalam there are many here.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Is there any difference in the standard of Malayalam between this State and Travancore? Why should we import a Travancorean when there are ever so many Cochin people up to the mark in this matter?

Mr. President:—The Hon'ble Member may view it in his way. The question is asked for getting information.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ:—പല ഭാഷകളിലും നൈപുണ്യം സമ്പാദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു മഹാകവിയല്ലേ ഉള്ളൂർ എസ്. പരമേശ്വരയ്യർ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. എൻ. മേനോൻ:—അതേ എന്നു് ഞാൻ ആദ്യമേ മറുപടി പറഞ്ഞു കഴിഞ്ഞു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ:—സമർത്ഥന്മാരായിരിയ്ക്കുന്നു കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഇന്ന രാജ്യക്കാരേ പാടുള്ളുവെന്നുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. എൻ. മേനോൻ:—അതും ഇല്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

The Tramways—discontinuance of.

189. Mr. P. Raman Menon:—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what loss have the Government suffered during the past 15 years on account of the Tramways;

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(b) what is the objection, if any, for the Government to discontinue the Tramways ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:—(a) None.

(b) For extracting with advantage the large stock of valuable timber still remaining in the forests tappable by the Tramway, the Tramway has to be continued.

Mr. P. Raman Menon:— Am I to take it that the Tramway Department if considered by itself shows a gain every year?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— With regard to the result of the working of the tramway for the last 15 years I may say that during the last 15 years the receipts from the sale of timber brought by Tramway and private parties comes to a total of 45.03 lakhs and the expenditure including the cost of collection of the timber and the whole maintenance of the Tramway has been 33·46 lakhs. During this period we have also spent a capital of 1·28 lakhs. Even deducting capital expenditure the Hon'ble Member will find that the net surplus for the 15 years has been 10·56 lakhs or on an average of 10.56 lakhs per annum.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Did not the Diwan give a kind assurance in the recent sitting of the Standing Finance Committee that definite attempts will be made to run the tramway on a more commercial line hereafter?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— The question is engaging the attention of the Government.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon:— If the proceeds of the sale of timber be adjusted to Tramway what will be the income of Forests?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— We cannot find out profit and loss account by taking the Tramway alone. The Tramway is only a further impliment for the forest department for its working in bringing down timber. It is on that standard that it has been fixed during the time of Sir A. R. Bannerjea.

Mr. P. Raman Menon:— As matters now stand if Tramway is taken by itself is it a loss or a gain ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— As I said we cannot treat Tramway by itself. According to the standard fixed by Sir A. R. Bannerjea a Statement of Profit and Loss account since the inception of the Tramway up to last year has been given on page 33 of the Tramway Forest Administration report last year.

Mr. P. Raman Menon:— What we gain by the sale of timber is taken by the Tramway Suppose the timber was removed by certain party. If you take that alone into consideration will it be a gain or loss. Tramway is a very big thing. It may be giving us every day thousands of rupees.

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Considering it as a unit by itself' taking only what we may reasonably get by the carriage of timber, will it be a loss or gain?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— What I meant to explain was that tramway is one of the methods for carrying timber from the Forest and you cannot consider the tramway as a separate institution.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon:— May I know when was this mode of computation begun ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— A definite system of accounts started from 1082, soon after Bannerjea took charge. It was then that the accounts have been standardised and the statement I have laid down is based on that. It has commenced from 1082.

Mr. H. J. Walmesley:— Have the Government considered the possibility of extending the tramway? I understand that the estates were producing something like 10,000 Mds of Tea and Coffee spending Rs. 50,000. I ask whether it is possible to develop that. It will bring a good income to the Government

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— The question is now under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. P. Raman Menon:— Supposing the tramway lines are entrusted to a private party for taking the timber from the forest to Chalakudi or some other place what amount will have to be paid to the party for the service done by the Tramway ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— Even on that basis the tramway is considered to be profitable. Separate accounts is being kept since 1104 according to which the rate payable on the timber transported for the Forest Department has been fixed and is being credited to the Tramway. Even upon the revised standard it has been found to be a definite profit.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— Are the rates same for the transport of timber by private parties and by the Government ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— We adjust the rate according to the variety of timber: on some species a higher rate and a lower rate on other species which have a low money value. That amount is fixed and the rates are adjusted.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon:— Is the proceeds of sale of timber of the Forest Department on the Tramway receipt side included in (2) Traffic for Forest Department under Receipts No. 2 in the Tramway Budget ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— The rate charged is included under that.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:— What is the capital amount ncurred on Tramway?

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Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— You will find from the last administration report that the total capital expenditure has been 20·93 lakhs.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:— What is the usual amount calculated per year on account of wear and tear?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— It is not exactly wear and tear. It was calculated, as I said, at the time of Mr. Bannerjea who looked into these accounts. Separate accounts have not been kept to show the capital and maintenance separately and it was as a sort of approximate measure that the capital was put at 13·90 lakhs and if a correct standard of depreciation has been fixed it would have been necessary to know the particular item. If a correct standard has to be fixed each article according to the expectation of this could not possibly be obtained in the absence of proper account up to the year 1082. So it was in order to get over this difficulty that I believe according to the standard he fixed 2 per cent on the capital should be taken as depreciation.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:— What is the standard of depreciation allowed to similar concerns ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— As far as I know there is no general standard of depreciation.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon:— Is the amount received by tramway included in (1) under Forests by Tramway? It was said that accounts of Sale proceeds of timber was included in (1) Tramway.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— I am afraid the Hon'ble Member has not caught my answer properly Freight charges on the timber has been included from the Forest Budget. The wholesale proceeds were credited.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan:— Is not the tramway providing employment to a good number of people ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon:— It is certainly one of the most useful things.

Coir School—admission of pupils.

190. Mr. George Parakkal— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) why only 15 pupils have been admitted in the Coir School; and

(b) why new admissions were not made in the beginning of the present school year ?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— (a) Admissions were restricted to 15 tstsudents lest the class should get congested for individual attention.

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